ADOBE ILLUSTRATOR GLOSSARY

8-BIT:
This colour format features the maximum available for thumbnail viewing of files consisting of 256 colours only and usually refers to colour schemes associated with preview headers or GIF image formats.

ANCHOR POINT:
Points connecting the segments of a path. Anchor points on curved paths have direction lines and points associated with them which determine the shape of the segments adjoining the anchor points.

ANTI-ALIASED TYPE:
Type displayed onscreen with lighter pixels along its borders so that the type outlines appear smooth rather than jagged.

ARTWORK MODE:
A method of viewing an Illustrator.8 document that displays the outline of paths but not their fills.

BASELINE:
The imaginary line on which all type rests.

BASELINE SHIFT:
The amount of space a character is offset above or below its baseline.

BRUSH STROKE:
A brush stroke is simply a shape drawn with the paint brush tool. Once created, shapes drawn in this manner have no special characteristics.

BYTE:
The smallest measure of file size, equivalent to 8 bits of digital information.

CLOSED PATH:
A path with its first and last anchor points connected.

CMYK:
Stands for the four basic ink colours used in process colour printing cyan, magenta, yellow, and black.

DEFAULT:
A system's software setting when shipped from the software publisher

DESELECT:
The act of letting go,i.e. with a selection tool click o a blank area of your page.

DPI:
Stands for dots per inch and refers to the resolution-or degree of detail-of a digital image.

EPS:
Stands for Encapsulated PostScript and refers to the self-contained page description language used as a standard in the digital imaging and desktop publishing industry. EPS was invented by Adobe Systems.

FREEHAND PATH:
A freehand path is simply path drawn by hand with the pencil tool.

GRADIENT:
The continuum between two colour selections in a filled object used for shading and colouring objects.

GRAYSCALE:
The Grayscale colour model is based on process black ink and is measured using percentage values between 0 and 100.

HSB:
Stands for HUE, SATURATION, BRIGHTNESS and is of the colour models used in the digital world to measure colour and brightness values of a digital images.

OBJECTS:
In Illustrator an object may be a single anchor point, line segment including two anchor points, or several connected line segments and anchor points that join to form an open or closed path.

OPEN PATH:
A path with its first and last anchor points unconnected.

ORIENTATION:
This term refers to the way in which a page is aligned. Pages may be set to landscape (wide) or portrait (tall) orientation.

PATH:
A series of anchor points and the segments connecting them.

PICT:

A file format commonly used on Macintosh that supports both vector and bitmap.

PIXEL:
The smallest measure of a bitmap image or screen resolution.

RASTER:
Another term used to describe bitmap.

RASTERISATION:
The process used to convert a vectored graphic into a bitmap.

RESOLUTION:
The unit of measurement used to describe the quality and size of a digital file using DPI, PPI, width and height producing a total value in MB.

RGB:
A colour format (red, green,blue) used for any on screen work. e.g., web graphics, on-screen presentation.

SELECTION:
The object or objects active on a page usually by clicking on an object using a selection tool

STROKE:
The path of an unclosed object or the outline of an enclosed path (object)

TEXT SELECTION:
Highlighting text using the text tool usually from the end of a line to the beginning.

TIFF:
Tagged image file format an established format for supplying printable files.

TRACKING:
Adjusting the tightness or looseness of text.

VECTOR IMAGES:
Images made of objects and lines that are mathematically described using coordinate, rather than pixels. The advantages of vectored images are that they are easy to create and edit, they can be re-sized without loss of detail, and are smaller than bitmaped images in file size.